



Year end 2013

Topic of the Month

What type of support does your coalition receive from your city, town, or county government?

The City of Hattiesburg supports our Excel By 5 effort by their membership on our Coalition. They further support us by letting us use city facilities for our Community Conversation and other meetings free of charge. They invite us to participate in early childhood-related events such as health fairs that are sponsored by the City of Hattiesburg. **Dan Kibodeaux, Hattiesburg coalition**

In McComb, we receive excellent in-kind services from our city through the use of facilities. All of our coalition meetings are held in a city facility and we are currently hosting a 6-week parent training in a city facility. - **Monique Gilmore and Carol Rawlings, McComb coalition**

The Lafayette-Oxford-University Excel by 5 Coalition has been fortunate to receive many forms of help from our local governments! Most recently, the Oxford Park Commission (OPC) collaborated with us and Caterpillar to install a Born Learn Learning Trail in a beautiful city park. Not only did OPC join us throughout the planning process, but they also laid the new asphalt trail and joined us on our volunteer workday to install and paint the signs. Moving forward, OPC will be maintaining the city park, which now includes the Born Learning Trail for children under five and their families! – **Alice Ricks for Kathy Sukaneck, Lafayette-Oxford-University coalition**

Our county government (volunteer fire department) sponsored our Fire Safety Event and provided free food, the use of the fire department, and fire trucks. -**Elisa Mayo for Donnis Harris, Central Clarke County coalition**

Mayor Carl Lewis fully supports all of the Beulah Excel By 5 efforts and activities. The Board of Alderman also supports the Coalition and volunteers when we need them.- **Linda Foster, Beulah coalition**

We receive funding from the city and the school system. We use the city government to fund our "Imagination Library" and the school system for all other things. We have private donations also. – **Connie Jo Williams, Pascagoula coalition**

In Cleveland, we are fortunate to benefit from the in-kind services of the City of Cleveland Mayor's Healthy Task Force. The group partners with us to host events that combat issues driven from our needs assessment survey. Examples of such events include Softball in the Fall, Baskets for Obesity, and the Annual Spring Fling in the Park with Literacy. –**Patsy Clerk, Cleveland coalition**

The Gulfport coalition has been well supported by our city. In addition to volunteers, the city of Gulfport has allowed the coalition to use city property for events, provided security during those gatherings, and publicized the events for us at no cost. Our coalition feels blessed to know that we are all working together for our children. –**Cynthia M. Walker, Gulfport coalition**

The Mayor and Board of Alderman are all in full support of our Alligator Excel By 5 Coalition and community activities. The Lead Agency is the Town's Mayor's Health Council.- **Jesse Romero, Alligator coalition**

The former mayor, Aniece Liddell was always helpful in providing in kind services by allowing us to use facilities free of charge as well as allowing city workers to assist us during community events. Our newly elected mayor, Billy Broomfield, has assured us that he will continue the same support as well as adding some financial support. - **Patrice McCullum, Moss Point coalition**

The City of Biloxi has been a Biloxi Excel By 5 supporter since the initiative began in 2009. The mayor appointed Sherry Bell, director of the Parks and Recreation Dept., to serve on the coalition. She is our Community Involvement Liaison. The city provides the coalition with in kind services such as snacks for the Biloxi Family Resource Center, water, and drinks for child care and parent trainings. For events, the city provides snacks, water, paper products, tables, chairs, curtains separating booths, games, play houses and picnic tables. City employees help set up for and break down the events and volunteer to man stations. Ms. Bell also coordinates registration for the city's sports programs with our educational parent/child trainings. Additionally, the mayor annually presents our Educational Partners with proclamations of appreciation at a city council meeting. - **Susan Hunt, Biloxi coalition**

We are proud to have one of Duncan's Alderpersons serving on our Coalition. She is very active and enjoys attending the Quarterly Sites Meetings. She makes a point to share the information from Excel By 5 events with the Mayor and other Board members.- **Mary Reddics, Duncan coalition**

The Mayor of Gunnison serves as a Co-Certification Manager for the Gunnison Excel By 5 Coalition. The Mayor's leadership on the Coalition and in the community has pushed our efforts forward.- **Marquetta Payne, Gunnison coalition**

We do receive monetary support from our city who has allocated a certain millage rate to support Excel By 5. Other ways they support our work include: providing lunch at our Excelebration, sending city workers to our Community Helper Day (including Mayor, Police, Fire, Sanitation), the police and fire departments give out info and provide fingerprinting at our health fair, the recreation dept. is always on hand to help at events held at city park and has installed our Born Learning Trails, and our Mayor attends Read Across America Day and proclaims it RAAD in our community. They also display our EB5 partner sign at City Hall and fly our EB5 flag at City Park. Members of the board and mayor have actively served on our EB5 coalition since the beginning as well as personally participating in programs offered such as Parents as Teachers. -**Julie Fondren, Petal coalition**

